



East County Intercom

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Timothy Firestone, Chief Administrative Officer

Anise Key Brown, Director

Kim Bobola, ECCAB Chair

Newsletter

January 2009

At 12:00 noon on Inauguration Day, January 20th 2009, Barack Obama will be sworn in as the 44th President of the United States.

"Congratulations" to President-Elect Barack Obama

"Wishing all a very Happy and a Prosperous New Year 2009!"

SAVE THE DATE!

County Executive Isiah Leggett To Sponsor Five Budget Forums



Public Encouraged to Attend and Provide Input on the Upcoming Challenges Decision Makers Will Face—Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett will sponsor five budget forums in January to seek input from residents about the challenges facing the County in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2010 Operating Budget. These sessions are hosted by the Regional Services Center Directors and the Regional Service Center Citizen Advisory Boards and are open to residents from any part of the County.

Thursday, January 29, 2009 7:00 p.m. -8:30 p.m.
Eastern Montgomery County Regional Services Center
3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring

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Topics of Interest

- East County Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Information
- The Peoples Community Wellness Center

The Peoples' Community Wellness Center at EMRSC



A Cooperative Venture between the People's Community Wellness Center (TPCWC), Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center (EMRSC) & Mobile Med.

For questions, call TPCWC at (301) 847-1172

Montgomery County Police
3rd Dist. Police - Silver Spring
801 Sligo Avenue,
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Tel # (301) 565-7740

Free Job Search Assistance Workshops - Need help with your job search? The following workshops will be held at the **Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road in Silver Spring**. They are presented by Marvin Adams, Certified Career Coach, Consultant and Instructor with over 20 years experience in career development. Call #240-777-8400 to register.



Tuesday, Jan 6 ▶ **"Write it With Style"** 9-10:30 a.m. (Advanced Resume Writing)

Tuesday, Jan. 13 ▶ **"How to Get Results"** 9-10:30 a.m. (Job Search Strategies)

Tuesday, Jan. 20 ▶ **"Location, Location, Location"** 10-12 p.m. (Internet Power) *

(*This workshop only will be held at the Praisner Recreation Center)

Tuesday, Jan. 27 ▶ **"Your Best Performance"** 9-10:30 a.m. (Interviewing/Negotiating)



Montgomery College
endless possibilities

IS COMING TO EAST COUNTY !

Two Montgomery College courses will be offered at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center (EMRSC). **SPANISH I, PART I**, will meet on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:30 beginning **February 9**. **CREATIVE WRITING**, will meet on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30-3:30 beginning **February 11**. The courses are part of the college's Workforce Development & Continuing Education (WD&CE) Program. Brochures about WD&CE may be picked up at the EMRSC. To register for either course, go to <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/ce/foreignlanguages02.html>

For assistance, call Ms. Price, WD&CE Program Director at 240-567-5515.

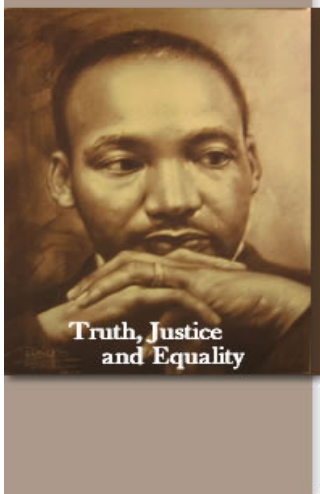
FREE LEGAL ADVICE CLINICS - The Montgomery County Bar Foundation Pro Bono Program, in partnership with Eastern Montgomery Regional Services, will continue to provide **free Legal Advice Consultations** for low income residents. The next clinic will be on **Thursday, January 8, from 5:30 – 9:00 pm.** A client intake must be completed within the first half-hour. For more information, call the Pro Bono Program Monday through Thursday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (301) 424-7651 or (301) 424-7652 or (301) 424-7633. For directions call 240-777-8400.



Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett
and the Office of Community Partnerships
Proudly Present



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. January 19 A Day of Service and Celebration



The Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center will host a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday on Monday, **January 19** with a time of Service and Celebration. The event will consist of opportunities for residents to volunteer their services on community projects and to participate in events in celebration of this day.

Projects and activities are family oriented and will be both on and off site. These include *making sachets and cards for seniors, visiting nursing homes, computer internet instruction for seniors, learning about the citizenship process, hearing a storyteller share about the life of Dr. King, and more.* **The projects will be offered from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at The Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring.** Call 240-777-8400 for more information.



NEW SUPPORT GROUP IN EAST COUNTY-

A new job search support group, "Eastern Montgomery Professionals Search & Support," meets on Tuesday mornings at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center. Topics of interest and help to job seekers, such as "Beating Job Search Burn-out" and "Improving Networking Skills" are presented and discussed. The group will meet each **Tuesday in January 2009, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** The Center is located at **3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring.**

LOOK WHAT YOU MISSED....



East County Yard Sale—The Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center hosted an indoor community yard sale on December 6th. Approximately 60 vendors set up their wares for a fun day of treasure hunting. The

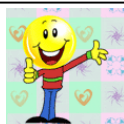
nearly \$500 in proceeds earned from renting space at the yard sale was donated to the Eastern Montgomery Emergency Assistance Network (EMEAN). EMEAN provides assistance to qualified residents for housing, utilities and prescription medication expenses.



Are You Ready for Digital TV?

The federal government is requiring all over-the-air broadcast television stations (such as WJLA, WUSA and WRC) to convert to all-digital television broadcasting by February 17, 2009. If your TV is hooked up to your local cable system or another subscription video provider, your service will not be impacted. However, **if you own an "analog" TV set that is not connected to cable and functions with the help of "rabbit ears" or an antenna, you will not be able to watch broadcast TV channels as of February 17, 2009.**

Consumers with an analog television set who watch over-the-air broadcast television, via a roof-top or "rabbit ear" antenna must either: 1) Connect all television sets to cable or another video service, 2) Purchase a new television set with a digital tuner, or 3) Obtain a digital set-top tuner that will convert digital TV signals back to analog. **Coupons are available from the federal government to help pay for digital-to-analog converters.** Help your friends and family prepare for the upcoming Broadcast Digital Television Transition. Let them know that the DTV Transition is coming and they need to make plans now. You can find more information on the broadcast DTV transition by visiting www.dtvtransition.org, by calling 1-888-DTV-2009.



Montgomery's 3 Women Councilmembers Applaud Montgomery County Area's Ranking As No. 1 Healthiest Place for Women

- The December 2008 issue of Self magazine has ranked the area ranging from Montgomery County to Frederick as the healthiest place for women among the 100 largest metropolitan areas in the nation. Today, the Montgomery County Council's three women Councilmembers—Valerie Ervin, Nancy Floreen and Duchy Trachtenberg—hailed the ranking that the magazine said "reveals the fittest, healthiest and happiest women in the land." For more information go to:

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/Council/PressRelease/PR_details.asp?PrID=5075

See what's happening around...



Eligible County Homeowners Reminded To Apply for Property Tax Credits

Eligible Montgomery County residents are reminded to apply for the State's Homestead Property Tax Credit. Application forms will be included in the assessment notice mailed to one-third of the homeowners at the end of

December.

The Homestead Property Tax Credit helps homeowners deal with large assessment increases on their principal residence by limiting the increase in taxable assessments each year to 10 percent. The tax credit does not limit the market value of the property as determined by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT), but calculates a credit on any assessment increase exceeding 10 percent from one year to the next. The homeowner pays no property tax on the market value increase which is above the limit.

Homeowners should also take advantage of available tax credit programs for income-eligible homeowners and seniors. The Maryland Homeowners' Property Tax Credit and Montgomery County's Supplemental Tax Credit may be available to homeowners whose annual household income is less than \$64,000. Homeowners who are at least 70 years of age and are eligible for either of these two homeowner property tax credits are eligible for the County's Senior Property Tax Credit.

It is necessary to reapply for the Maryland Homeowners' Property Tax Credit program each year with SDAT. The deadline for filing an application for this tax credit is September 1, although the earlier homeowners apply, the more likely it will be that the credit will appear on the tax bill that is received the following June. Since the application form contains all the necessary information for SDAT to determine eligibility for both the State and County credits, homeowners need to submit only one application.

For more information about the tax credit programs, call 1-800-944-7403 or visit <http://www.dat.state.md.us/>.



FREE ESOL CLASSES—

Open enrollment continues for Beginner and Intermediate "English for Speakers of Other Languages" (ESOL) classes at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center. Classes are held on **Tuesday evenings from 6:00-8:30, will continue February through May 2009** and are open to all wanting to learn English. To receive more information, call 240-777-8400. Classes are provided by the Chinese Culture and Community Center.

**"SAVE
YOUR HOME"**
hosted by
**Congresswoman
Donna F. Edwards**

When : Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Time : 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Where: Montgomery College
Building HT,
20200 Observation Drive
Germantown, MD 20876**

For more information, go to

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/sc/eastco/housing/foreclosure010709.pdf>



The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is now offering evening hours every Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m. at three locations.

Applications will be accepted and screening services will be available for income support programs, health care programs and child care subsidy and rental assistance. Some programs, such as emergency services and medical assistance for long-term care, require appointments. Services will be available at:

8818 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD

1301 Piccard Drive
Rockville, MD

12900 Middlebrook Road
Germantown, MD

For information, call the HHS Information and Assistance Unit at 240-777-1245



**Some helpful tips for your
New Year resolutions....**

1. *Reach office "ON TIME"*
2. *Spend time with friends and family*
3. *Go for Trips and Outings*
4. *Maintain a Budget*
5. *Keep House Clean*
6. *Quit Smoking and Drinking*
7. *Say "NO" to junk food*
8. *Read Books*
9. *Workout /Exercise, Meditate*
10. *Adopt a pet*
11. *Keep yourself busy with creativity.*
12. *Smile often*

Above all, enjoy and live your life to the fullest!

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK & PLANNING COMMISSION PRESS RELEASE

Montgomery County Transportation Planners Recommend Light Rail for Purple Line While Protecting Popular Trail

What: Public hearing on the Purple Line
When: Approx. 2 p.m. Thursday, January 8
Where: Park and Planning Headquarters, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring.
For details, go to

<http://mncppc.typepad.com/news/2008/12/montgomery-county-transportation-planners-recommend-light-rail-for-purple-line-while-protecting-popu.html#more>

Marilyn J. Praisner Library, 14910 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville, Maryland 20866
 Tel 240-773-9460. To review the Marilyn J. Praisner Library's upcoming events and

other learning programs go to **Calendar of Events at:**

<http://host.evanced.info/montgomerycountymd/evanced/eventcalendar.asp?ag=&et=&dt=dr&ds=2008-3-31&de=2008-9-30&df=list&cn=0&private=0&lib=5>

White Oak Library, 11701 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Maryland 20904 Tel 240-773-9555

To review the White Oak Library's upcoming events and other learning programs go to **Calendar of Events at**

<http://host.evanced.info/montgomerycountymd/evanced/eventcalendar.asp?ag=&et=&dt=dr&ds=2008-3-31&de=2008-9-30&df=list&cn=0&private=0&lib=20>



Meeting and conference room space is available at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Center. To reserve space, call the CUPF agency at #(240) 777-2706

FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY NEWS - go to
http://montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/News/press/PR_list.asp

East County Citizens Advisory Board (ECCAB)

Residents are invited to attend the East County Citizens Advisory Board meetings and encouraged to ask questions & provide comments.

Our next ECCAB meeting will be held at the
 Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center on

Wednesday, January 7, 2009 at 7:15pm

For questions please contact : Tel (240) 777-8400 / TTY (240) 777-8418

Meetings are open to the Public!

"Inauguration Day Information: Metro to Charge Rush-hour Fares, Parking Fees." Go to:

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/dpwt/PressRelease/PR_list.asp

SAVE THE DATE ! UPCOMING TOWN HALL MEETING!

Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at White Oak Middle School

Come to a town hall meeting and speak to our County Executive about your concerns and ideas. *"I want to keep what's working, fix what's not, and make sure everyone has a seat at the table."* - Ike Leggett November, 8, 2006

To subscribe to our East County Newsletter, Programs & Events, click here
<https://ext01.montgomerycountymd.gov/entp/s1p/esubpublic/newssubscriber.do>



East County Citizens Advisory Board seeks applicants to serve on the Board.

For more information, please contact 240-777-2528 or go to

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcqtmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/boards/boards.asp>

Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center

3300 Briggs Chaney Road

Silver Spring, MD 20904

Phone: 240-777-8400 / Fax: 240-777-8410

e-mail: eastco.citizen@montgomerycountymd.gov

web : <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/eastco>



FREE Compost Bins

available at EMRSC

Call 240-777-8400

M-F 8:30 am -5:00 pm